IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

JUN 0 5 2

Group Art Unit: 2767 Examiner: J. Darrow

In Re PATENT APPLICATION Of:

Applicants: SCHEIDT et al.

Serial No.: 09/023,672

Filed: February 13, 1998

For: CRYPTOGRAPHIC KEY SPLIT COMBINER

Washington, D.C. 20231

Attorney Ref.: STS 119

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of April 11, 2000, the present Reply is respectfully submitted in accordance with the provisions under **35 U.S.C. 132(b)** as a Request for Continued Examination. The required transmittal form and fee are attached herewith.

Reconsideration and allowance of pending Claims 1-69 in view of the following remarks are respectfully requested.

In addition, it is respectfully requested that, upon receiving this Response, the Examiner contact the Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for a personal interview.